



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Karl E. Longley, ScD, P.E., Chair.



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Redding Office
415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding, California 96002
(530) 224-4845 • Fax (530) 224-4857
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

14 March 2008

Ms. Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer
CA Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
1102 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Ms. J. Sharon Heywood, Forest Supervisor
USDA Forest Service
Shasta-Trinity National Forest
3644 Avtech Parkway
Redding, CA 96002

FOURTH ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE, AND CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, TO ELIMINATE THE DISCHARGE OF GRAY WATER TO SHASTA LAKE

Since 22 February 2005, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (Forest Service) staff have prepared annual progress reports detailing activities carried out to accomplish the goals listed in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Forest Service and Regional Water Board to eliminate the discharge of gray water from houseboats to Shasta Lake by 6 September 2006.

Calendar year 2007 is the first full year in which staff has been able to observe the effects of the gray water prohibition. All 402 commercial houseboats currently operating on Shasta Lake have installed gray water holding tanks. Of 623 private Recreational Occupancy Vessels (ROVs), 588 (94.4 %) have installed gray water holding tanks, 10 (1.7%) are currently being retrofitted to comply with the MOU, and 25 (4.3%) have not clearly indicated their compliance on self-monitoring worksheets. Staff will request additional information from the 25 private ROV owners to determine the actions they have taken or intend to take to comply with the gray water discharge prohibition. Staff intends to pursue enforcement against ROV owners that fail to comply.

Using information submitted to the Regional Water Board through individual Monitoring and Reporting Programs, staff has tracked wastewater disposal rates at each of the marinas prior to and after 6 September 2006. Overall wastewater disposal rates on Shasta Lake remained relatively consistent from 2004 to 2006; however, rates increased by approximately 37 percent in 2007. Wastewater disposal rates were projected to increase by two to three times greater than background levels (i.e., black water only). Some smaller marinas have seen an increase in wastewater generation up to five times the background level after implementation of gray water capture. Marinas that observed little change in wastewater disposal rates may have seen a decrease in houseboat use, or encouraged boaters to conserve water and therefore



generate less gray water. Regional Water Board staff estimates that in calendar year 2007 approximately 1,300,000 gallons of gray water was discharged to a treatment system rather than directly into Shasta Lake. In 2007, Regional Water Board staff received no complaints regarding failing treatment systems or unauthorized disposal of gray water into Shasta Lake.

Regional Water Board staff has completed revision of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for three Shasta Lake marinas: Jones Valley Resort, Sugarloaf Marina and Resort, and Packers Bay Marina. WDRs were revised to incorporate new or proposed expansions of these marinas' on-site wastewater treatment systems for sewage and additional wastes from the capture of gray water. WDRs were adopted by the Regional Water Board on 2 August 2007. Regional Water Board staff has since received a complete Application/Report of Waste Discharge for two marinas, Holiday Harbor Marina and Silverthorn Resort, requesting similar revisions.

In 2008, Regional Water Board staff will continue to review and revise individual WDRs for the remaining Shasta Lake marinas. In the future, Regional Water Board staff will also prepare an amendment to the Basin Plan that prohibits the discharge of sewage and gray water from all vessels to any lake or reservoir in the Region, including but not limited to houseboats moored and/or operated on Shasta Lake.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (North Coast Region) has jurisdiction for Trinity Lake. Although Regional Water Board staff provide North Coast Region staff a copy of the MOU, Forest Service staff report that the discharge of gray water from houseboats to Trinity Lake is still occurring. With the successful implementation of the Shasta Lake MOU, Trinity Lake is the only lake in California where the discharge of gray water has not been eliminated.

Original Signed by

KAREN L. CLEMENTSEN, P.G.
Regional Board Project Coordinator

Original Signed by

KRISTY COTTINI
Forest Service Project Coordinator

KB/KLC:

